

Fall 12-1995

One-Acts: Birchmarks & And Sometimes We Just Listen to Each Other Breathe Program [1995]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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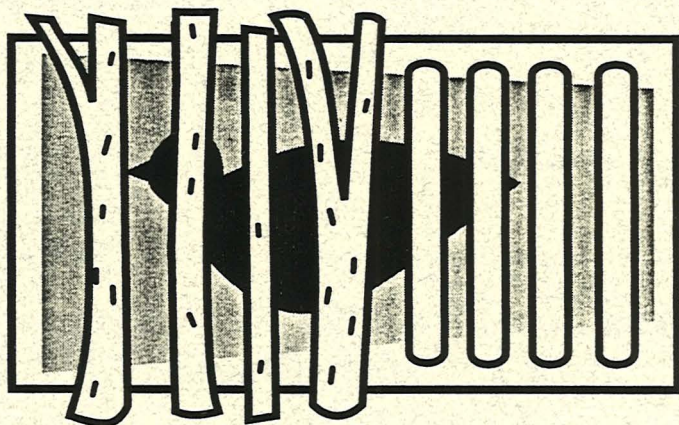
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ORIGINAL STUDENT ONE-ACT PLAYS

one acts



BIRCHMARKS
BY GUY DURICHEK

AND SOMETIMES WE JUST LISTEN TO EACH OTHER BREATHE
BY JENNIFER BOISLARD

THE MAIN STAGE, RUSSELL HALL, USM GORHAM CAMPUS
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY DECEMBER 8 AND 9, 7:30 P.M., SUNDAY DECEMBER 10, 5:00 P.M.
DIRECTED BY THOMAS POWER AND WILLIAM STEELE

Student one-act plays
directed by Thomas Power and William Steele.

Birchmarks

by Guy Durichek

Time: The present.
The action of the play takes place in rural New England.

Cast

John Doe
Dr. Gillman
Dr. MacPherson
Orderly
Woman

Sean Gordon
David Moison
David Martin
Brian Saunders
Andrea Dudley

And Sometimes We Just Listen to Each Other Breathe

by Jennifer Boislard

Time: The present.
The action of the play takes place in rural America.

Cast

Alna
Zoma
Henry

Stephanie Hughes
Susan Palmer
Ryan Corliss

Note: These plays contain adult language and nudity.

There will be a ten-minute intermission.

Directors' Note

These plays were selected from the Spring 1995 Playwriting class. Directed by full time faculty, the productions are the culmination of an opportunity presented to young writers by the Theatre Department.

Design and Technical Crew

Directors
Scenic Design
Costume Design
Technical Director
Lighting Design
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Costume Shop Manager
Props
Lighting Board Operator
Set Construction
Assistant Costume Designer/Dresser
Costume Crew
Master Electrician
Musician
Running Crew

House Manager
Promotions Director
Box Office/Promotions Associate
Theatre Office
Poster graphic design

William Steele and Thomas Power
Charles Kading
Susan Picinich
Fred Fauver
Fred Fauver
Krista Richardson
Brandon Foster
Christenia A. Kinne
Krista Richardson, Alice McFarland
Allison Lowe
Stage Craft Lab I
Matthew M. Ryder
Alice Tweedie, Erica Essman
Jamie Grant
Tim Morrill
Kelly Sprague, Luca Richards,
Sarah Parisien, Brandon Foster
Alice McFarland
Mary Snell
Emmanuelle Chaulet
Marj Novel
Leigh Raposo, USM Publications

Playwrights' Notes

***Birchmarks* by Guy Durichek** -- I have used the opening lines of *The Hound of Heaven* by Francis Thompson in my play and would like to note the credit due. I would also like to thank Kristin Pierson for her words, her stories, and for simply being. This play would not exist without her influence. It is part truth, part myth, and a story I wanted to tell. A special thank you to Cast and Crew for putting up with me, and to Chris Kull, the Snow Family, and Maryann Butts for supporting my faith and witnessing this journey.

***...Breathe* by Jen Boislard** -- One spring evening I discovered the world of a play that was about two years in the making. The inspiration came from a book based on the Trojan War. After struggling for a long time with how to transpose that inspiration into the 20th century, at two o'clock in the morning it all became clear. The play is essentially about circumstances and how three people react in the parameter of what is given. The play is simply a story, the characters wrote themselves through me. Many thanks to Christa Wolfe for writing *Cassanori*, to Mary and Ryan for being troubled playwrights, and for the muse that sat on my shoulder that night at 2 a.m. and graced me with the courage to follow through, and oh yes, to Dr. Stump.

Biographies

Jennifer Boislard recently graduated from the University of Southern Maine. This is her final project in association with the USM. She would like to thank Bill and Tom for their support in producing this difficult and serious material. She is now directing a show entitled *Peace Accord* about the Balkan War which opens December 14th. Future plans include a move to Connecticut where she plans to be a very happy person with a college degree.

Ryan Corliss is a 4th year (going on five) theater major at USM. In the fall of '94 his full length play, *True Man's Own*, was produced, and later he directed *Purgatory*. For his first role in some time he's tried to treat such an inhumane action as delicately as possible. Thank you to all.

Andrea Dudley is a junior English major. This is her first show at USM. She just moved back to Maine from Chicago, where she did not do theatre at all.

Guy Durichek is a junior theatre major. Last year he served as assistant director to Assunta Kent for *Dream of Canaries* and directed *Tell* for the SPA one-acts "Three Shot Minimum." He has performed in several Russell Square Player's productions such as *Oh! Antigone*, *Summer and Smoke*, *Sganarelle*, and was most recently seen in *The Yellow Wallpaper* at Oak Street Theater. He is extremely excited that his first play is being produced. This coming summer he will be a puppet maker/performer intern at Bread and Puppet Theater for the Insurrection Symphony program.

Stephanie Hughes is a sophomore theatre major at USM. Her most recent appearance, was in City Theatre's *Forum*, in the role of Domina. She would like to thank Bill, Tom, the cast, and crew for a great run, and her friends and family for their patience and love.

David Martin is in his last year at USM. His recent rolls include David in *Purple Breasts* and Lewis in *Pippin*. He would like to thank the cast, crew, and directors for a memorable experience.

David Moisan's advice regarding *Birchmarks* is to keep some emotional distance, otherwise you'll never last.

Susan Palmer is a third year theatre major focusing on performance. She last appeared in *Purple Breasts* as Beth. Susan would like to sincerely thank everyone in the cast and crew for their tremendous support. It was a challenging, dark world to discover and I want to share it in hopes we may find some light.

Krista Richardson, stage manager, is a senior graduating in December. She has been seen in the USM productions of *Sganarelle*, *Summer and Smoke*, and the student written one-act, *The Republic Incarnate*, *The Phoenix Will Rise Again*. In May, she traveled to England to perform Russell Square Player's *American Journeys*. Previously, she has stage managed *Loot* and as always gains vast amounts of knowledge with each new show.

Brian Saunders would like to take this time to acknowledge all the "small parts" in theatre. Each character is a principal. (yes, this statement makes me feel cool!)

Faculty Biographies

Charles S. Kading (scenic design) has taught design and stagecraft at USM for 15 years. His professional credits include *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*, *Dark River*, and currently *Keely and Du* for Mad Horse Theatre; *My Fair Lady* and *Cabaret* for Maine State Music Theater; *Big River* and *Cabaret* for Philadelphia's Walnut Street Theatre; and *Noises Off* and *Blithe Spirit* at The Alabama Shakespeare Festival. He has also worked extensively at The Alley Theater in Houston where his credits include the USA premiere of Alan Ayckbourne's *Henceforward*. In addition, Charles has designed scenery for the Seattle Repertory Theater, Intiman Theater, Cabaret Repertory Theater, and Portland Stage.

Christenia Alden Kinne (costume shop supervisor) has worked with the USM Department of Theatre for the past 13 years both as an instructor and as supervisor of the costume shop. A graduate of Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., Chris did graduate work at The University of California at Davis and Trinity University through the Dallas Theater Center, focusing on both acting and costume design. Last season she designed *A Dream of Canaries* at USM, and *Pericles* for Maine Summer Drama Institute.

Susan E. Picinich (costume design) joined the USM Department of Theatre faculty in 1987 and has since designed costumes for 34 University productions. She has an MFA degree from the University of Michigan and previously taught at SUNY Albany and Western Illinois University. Last season Susan designed *Sight Unseen* at Portland Stage Company and this season's *King Lear* at Mad Horse Theatre. On sabbatical last spring, Susan was costumer at Manhattan Theatre Club for *Radical Mystique* and *Night and Her Stars* and worked on two feature films. In the summer she takes to the road and practices her craft at Maine State Music Theater in Brunswick. Last Summer's *Fiddler on the Roof* and *My Fair Lady* were her work.

Thomas A. Power has been producing, directing, and writing for the theatre for over 20 years. Past manager and artistic director of The Children's Theatre of Maine during the 70's, Power co-authored the Maine Bicentennial production, *The Burning of Falmouth*, as well as numerous other plays for children. In 1980 he collaborated with Kurt Vonnegut Jr. in a re-write of *Happy Birthday Wanda June* resulting in a revised publication of that script. In collaboration with composer Larry "Flash" Allen, Power authored the musical drama, *Grannia*, winning ACTF honors as well as the Moss Hart Award, and was later produced at Monmouth Theatre. He also publishes regular dramatic reviews in the Journal Tribune and Portland Press Herald, as well as co-producing a half-hour television show, "Power and Steele on Theatre," a critique of regional theatre productions seen on Public Cable and Maine Public Television.

William Steele, associate professor of theatre, directs plays and teaches acting, directing, public speaking, and journalistic drama criticism for the Theatre Department. In addition, he is a regular contributing drama critic and theatre columnist for the Portland Press Herald, co-host and producer of the Portland Public Cable and Maine Public Television program "Power and Steele on Theatre," and a professional actor with national credits in film, television, commercials and industrials. Steele is also the author of three books.

KC/ACTF XXVIII

The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival
XXVIII

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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for adjudication by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.